



PACKED HOUSE . . . Part of the capacity crowd which packed the Civic Auditorium Monday night to attend the Annual Chamber of Commerce Round-up Banquet "Hold it" while cameraman snapped this photo to record the event.—Keystone Photo.

**PARKING ON HIGHWAYS**  
It is well to keep in mind when traveling in strange states that most of them have laws prohibiting parking of vehicles on the road surface if it is possible to do otherwise. All insist upon no parking when visibility of the car in either direction is less than 200 feet.

**Salute**

(Continued from Page 1)

sisted of eight buildings. The P.E. Depot was a low white stucco building with a bright yellow dome that shone in the sun like a beacon. Just across the street and to the right was a one-story white stucco building which housed the Torrance National Bank, and next to that was a three-story white stucco apartment building.

"Across the street on El Prado was an exact duplicate of these buildings, one housing the Thomas D. Campbell Company, tract agents, the other an apartment building. That's all there was at this end of town. At the corner of Cabrillo and Gramercy was the Colonial Hotel, another three-story brick building. In this building was Jamieson and Gourdier, engineers and builders (later Mr. Gourdier became our postmaster, and served as such for many years).

"Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson are still residents of Torrance, Mrs. Jamieson being our present librarian.

"Next to the offices of Jamieson & Gourdier," he continued, "Sam Rappaport had a drygoods store, next to him was a restaurant, and across the street was a two-story building. Here was the grocery store and meat market. At the corner of Cabrillo and Carson was another three-story building known as the Brighton Hotel building occupied by the Dolley Drug Store and Hurum Reeve Hardware Store.

"That was the business section of Torrance thirty years ago!

"Just around the corner on Carson Street was a little shed that housed the Torrance Fire Department, a hand-drawn hose reel cart. Alongside of the shed, hanging from a tripod, was a split steel circle about four feet in diameter, and a twelve-pound

sledge hammer. When we had a fire, the first one who would get to the sledge hammer pounded the ring, which could be heard for miles around on those quiet Torrance nights.

"One of our main sources of entertainment was, fire drill on Wednesday night. The fire chief would sound the alarm, we would all come running, pull the cart to the nearest fire plug, string out the hose, wind it up again, and go to the glass factory.

"Our residential district consisted of two blocks on Andreo avenue and two blocks on Gramercy.

"The school, library and church were on Cabrillo avenue, at about 220th street.

"The industrial section starting at the south end of town was the Torrance Glass Factory, now the Doak Aircraft Plant. This was the town gathering place. You could always find a goodly number of the towns-folk gathered there watching the men blow window glass any evening.

"At the beginning of World War I, I believe the Union Tool invented what was known at that time as the 'welderette.' They had dozens of girls and women welding heads in oil drums. I believe this was the beginning of the woman welder.

"Then to the north of town was the Llewellyn Iron Works, which is now the Columbia Steel Company. On 213th and Border was a lumber yard known as the Southern California Lumber & Cement Company, and here is where I came into Torrance, as manager of this lumber yard.

"There is one other thing I want to mention in passing, and that was the fields of Wild California Peppies and Blue Lupine. All the vacant lots and fields for miles around used to be covered with these flowers. People would come here by the thousands in the spring to see this sight. It was most beautiful.

"With the building of homes and cultivation of the land, they have passed on, only to be a memory to those of us who were here in the early days.

"This was Torrance thirty-four years ago. Now let us see what thirty-four years of achievement have done for Torrance. Today Torrance is the fifth largest city in area in Los Angeles County, with about 19 square miles within its boundaries. In 1948, our population had passed the 19,000 mark, with an unprecedented number of building permits of

1,675 which totaled \$7,979,825. A record year for the City of Torrance. Post office receipts for the same period jumped from \$45,651.53 to \$121,991.65. Torrance now has about 6000 homes and about 100 industries.

"Western avenue is soon to be developed as a major thoroughfare from Glendale to San Pedro.

"Crenshaw boulevard is on the Chamber's program for development from Hollywood to Palos Verdes in the very near future.

"An active Retail Merchants Division has been established, and parking lots have been provided for the buyers' convenience.

"The Torrance Board of Education, with a substantial bond issue already voted by the people, is ready to embark on a program for additional school facilities in the Hollywood Riviera, Seaside Ranchos, Waveria, and North Torrance Districts.

"The El Camino Junior College at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach boulevards of which Torrance is a part is well on its way toward developing a 90-acre site into what will be, within the scope of five years, one of the finest colleges of its kind in California.

This semester's enrollment is well past the 2400 mark. Contracts already have been let for a machine shop, girls gym, the compactment of a stadium that will seat 20,000 people, the track field and field house, and the underground facilities, such as sewers, drainage, water, light, gas, and a paved five-acre parking lot. At the end of its five year program it will be a \$4,000,000 school plant—without a bond issue.

"The future of Torrance depends on each and every one of us; we have the facilities and what it takes to make Torrance

the brightest spot in California, let's not miss."

Reed H. Parkin, chamber vice president, served as master of ceremonies.

Musical entertainment was provided by the Torrance Area Youth band under the direction of James Van Dyck, Jonathan Murakami, Narbonne high school student, played a cornet solo.

The following firms and organizations were represented at the dinner:

Pacific Electric Railway, Torrance Herald, Torrance Lions Club, City of Torrance, Torrance Area Youth Bands, Inc.

National Supply Company, Columbia Steel Company, American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corp., General Petroleum Corp., Ben Haggott—Seaside Ranchos, Torrance National Bank, Palisades Builders,

Mayfair Creamery, K. Sande-

Senness—Pacific Hills, National Electric Products Corp., Torrance Rotary Club, C.M.O. & Mullin's Service Oldsmobile Agency, Walter G. Lynch—Dodge & Plymouth dealer, Doak Aircraft Corp.

International Derriek & Equipment Co., American Rock Wool Corp., William Tolson, Realtor.

Kettler Knolls, Benson Shops, Bank of America, Warren Southwest, Inc., Southern California Edison.

Republic Construction Corp., Lomita Business Association, Torrance Kiwanis Club, Torrance Retail Merchants, Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., W. E. Bowen, realtor.

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